AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 7, 9, 15, and 17, as indicated below.

- 1. (Currently amended) A method for treating a disease selected from diabetes mellitus and atherosclerosis comprising administrating to a subject an effective amount of crude *Dunaliella* powder comprising an approximately 1:1 ratio of all-trans and 9-cis β-carotene.
- 2. (Original) A method for reducing triglycerides and/or increasing HDL cholesterol levels in the plasma of a subject comprising administrating to the subject an effective amount of crude *Dunaliella* powder.
- 3. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein said crude *Dunaliella* powder is administered together with one or more activators of nuclear receptors.
- 4. (Original) The method according to Claim 3 wherein the activators of nuclear receptors are peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor α or γ (PPAR α or PPAR γ) agonists.
 - 5. (Original) The method according to Claim 4 wherein the

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PPAR α or PPAR γ agonists are selected from fibrates and thiazolidinediones.

- 6. (Original) The method according to Claim 5 wherein the fibrates are selected from clofibrate, fenofibrate, bezafibrate, ciprofibrate, beclofibrate and gemfibrozil.
- 7. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 5 wherein the thiazolidinediones are selected from avandia, troglitazone, BRL 49653, pioglitazone, ciglitazone, WAY 120,744, englitazone, AD 5075, darglitazone and rosiglitazone.
- 8. (Original) The method according to Claim 1 wherein said crude *Dunaliella* powder is administered orally.
- 9. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 1 wherein said <u>Dunaliella</u> algae is <u>Dunaliella</u> bardawil.
- 10. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein said powder is encapsulated.
- 11. (Original) The method according to claim 2 wherein said crude *Dunaliella* powder is administered together with one or more

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activators of nuclear receptors.

- 12. (Original) The method according to Claim 11 wherein the activators of nuclear receptors are peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor α or γ (PPAR α or PPAR γ).
- 13. (Original) The method according to Claim 12 wherein the PPAR α or PPAR γ agonists are selected from fibrates and thiazolidinediones.
- 14. (Original) The method according to Claim 13 wherein the fibrates are selected from clofibrate, fenofibrate, bezafibrate, ciprofibrate, beclofibrate and gemfibrozil.
- 15. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 13 wherein the thiazolidinediones are selected from avandia, troglitazone, BRL 49653, pioglitazone, ciglitazone, WAY 120,744, englitazone, AD 5075, darglitazone and rosiglitazone.
- 16. (Original) The method according to Claim 2 wherein said crude *Dunaliella* powder is administered orally.
 - 17. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 2

wherein said <u>Dunaliella</u> algae is Dunaliella bardawil.

18. (Original) The method according to Claim 2, wherein said powder is encapsulated.